

AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

Box Stalls for Horses.

The stable for the horse should be of good size. The narrow dimensions of many of the stalls are a positive cruelty to horses. They are built too narrow to enable the horse to extend his limbs when convenient. He is compelled, when in a recumbent position, to double his limbs up under him, and his legs are thus kept cramped, when they should be completely at rest. Box-stalls permit the animal to choose its position and change it at pleasure. Comfort is essential to health, and it is evident that the animal can not be comfortable when closely tied in a narrow stall. The stalls should be kept clean, and the floor daily sprinkled with some good absorbent, as gypsum, to absorb the foul odors continually arising. Absorbents are not generally used freely enough about stables. Besides having pure air for the animal to breathe, a stable that is stored full of hay and grain ought to be kept well ventilated, and kept clean, that the impurities of the air may not penetrate these. All food should be kept as pure as possible. Cleanliness about the stable is just as important to the health of the horse, as cleanliness about the house is important to the health of the family.—*American Agriculturist*.

Summer Fallowing.

The practice of summer fallowing, now so prevalent in many Northwestern sections, is claimed by many to actually add to the richness of the land. This is supposed to be so because larger crops are grown upon lands so treated. "Are not these larger crops due," asks the *Minnesota Farmer*, "rather to the fact that constant stirring has so pulverized the ground that it is placed in a mechanical condition suitable for the grain sown on it to more completely absorb the elements required for their growth, and, therefore, while producing larger crops the sooner exhausted? Summer fallowing without manure will eventually become a broken reed for the farmer to lean upon. A judicious rotation is far preferable. Some intelligent farmers claim that they have thoroughly tried summer fallowing to get rid of weeds, and that as a means to accomplish that purpose it is a flat failure. The plan has its merits, but at best it must have the important objection urged against it that one year's crop is unavoidably lost while the interest on the investment, the taxes and time go right on without a let up. Still, it has been a practice in old agricultural countries for hundreds of years, and has done good service."

Farm and Garden Notes.

Manure is the farmers' savings bank. Beware of lice on fowls at this season. Catnip is regarded as a valuable plant for bees.

Avoid feeding too much corn to growing pigs.

Sift the cinders out before using coal ashes for the chickens' dust-box.

Pretty country homes are becoming more common than they used to be.

There is a growing determination on the part of farmers not to wash the wool on sheep.

Farmers complain that the English sparrow destroys the buds of fruit trees and bushes.

Those who feed bran to horses largely are not in favor of it, according to F. D. Coburn.

Colonel F. D. Curtis suggests that "more 'come bossy,' and less 'get around there,' will fill the pail."

The horse that works in the long, hot days wants a dry shoulder and a clean collar, says Stephen Powers.

The willow, elm and poplar figure among the most troublesome of trees for filling up drains with their roots.

Cut out the canes of raspberries that have borne fruit this year and stake up the canes for bearing next season.

Sawdust and lime make a very tough, firm, enduring plaster, which can be used to much advantage in patching walls, flues, etc.

The farmer who leaves expensive implements exposed to the weather is usually one who finds that "there is no money in farming."

An expression of opinions at a recent meeting of farmers developed the fact that most of them inclined to cut hay when in full bloom.

On rich land it always pays to sow clover with orchard grass, as they ripen about the same time, and the orchard grass will hold the clover up. This is an old rule.

A crop of fodder corn is not only a useful resource in time of drouth, but, as the *American Dairyman* suggests, "excellent for ridding the ground of many troublesome kinds of weeds."

One part corn meal, two parts bran, two parts of ground oats, one part ground meat, one part of middlings, a little bone meal and salt scalded and fed early in the morning, is reported a good egg-producing food.

Mr. S. M. Palmer says: "When one of your team horses is more tender in the mouth, and especially if a little the slower, make his lines two or three inches longer than the faster horse and they will travel much easier."

To have a good turnip patch the preparation of the land should begin early. No crop grown requires more thorough fixing of the soil or heavier manuring. The turnip feeds voraciously, and seldom is enough manure used.

It is claimed that corn, clover and other crops are now generally allowed to pass the succulent stage and come nearly

to maturity before putting them in the silo. The advantages are that they contain more nutriment and the smaller percent of water allows the heating to reach a higher point.

Dwarf peas seldom afford more than one picking, though they come early. The fall varieties require more labor (and sticking), but they afford several crops, and do not ripen all the pods at the same time. Seed for a late supply may be planted even as late as now, but the crop will not be heavy.

Young turkeys do not thrive in confinement. Wandering about seems necessary for their development. Damp is fatal to them. They should be kept fastened up till the early dew is off, and then allowed to roam. Chopped green food, especially onion tops, mixed with soaked bread, etc., will make them thrive.

In applying any liquid mixture to destroy insects, like the kerosene and soap mixture for plant lice, or Buhach and water for the cabbage caterpillar, Prof. A. J. Cook urges that the liquid be thrown on with much force, so that it will scatter everywhere. It is not the amount of poison, but the thorough distribution, that should engage attention.

Procure new crop turnip seed and have the ground fine. The rows may be wide apart, so as to allow of working with the cultivator. The ground should be as fine as an ash-heap. Drop the seed in small clusters, about six inches apart in the rows, as the insects will often destroy young turnips. If too thick when up they can be thinned out. Too much fine, well-rotted manure cannot be used on turnips. Do not put turnips on ground occupied by corn the previous year.

Trials of a Consul.

A young fellow, writes an attaché to an American consulate in England, unmistakably a Bowery boy, swaggered in and demanded to be sent home. I found he had no claim, and denied him. He was persistent, and finally insolent, and told me he knew the ropes well; that he was too fly for me; that he knew "de Government give me \$300 a year to send de boys home, and I didn't send 'em to swag de tin." I called the bouncer, a necessary appendage to a seaport consulate, for whom the Government ought to make an appropriation, and had him thrown out. But he was the *avant garde* of an army. Within two hours five fellows, one after another, and, with cunning effrontery, or insolence, according to their natures, informed me that they knew all about it; that the fewer I sent to the States, the more money I made, and that I had better not carry it too far. This was getting interesting, and the next applicant for part of the board that I was robbing the poor of was closely questioned. After a long and searching inquiry I found that an old sailor whom I had the day before refused a sixpence for beer was buttonholing every old cast-away and beach comber on the quays and saying: "Go to the Yankee Consul if you want a soft berth. He gets a lot of money to send poor fellows to the States, and he's pocketing most of it; but if you shove him hard enough he's bound to send you." This was an ingenious vengeance, wasn't it? And it gave me trouble for months. Indeed, after a year a "Boston boy," as he, with visible swelling, informed me, seemed utterly heart-broken that he had been misinformed in the streets about his chances of getting home. He earnestly begged a shilling to get some supper, which I gave him. He left me, and, as I accidentally noticed through the window, joined a particularly indurated old shell-back. So I followed them, and, as I supposed, they sought the first bar. I went after them and quietly demanded my shilling back, under pain of prosecution for obtaining money under false pretenses; but the Boston boy nonchalantly informed me that he was being treated by the other fellow, and that my shilling was safe in his pocket, where it should remain. While I was hunting a policeman he got away.

The World's Largest Cities.

The following information, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is often inquired for, and, as it may be useful in many cases for reference, we have compiled a table of the largest cities of the world, with their populations as stated by the latest authorities. In the absence of any official census the Chinese cities have simply to be estimated, and of course must be accepted as an approximation only. We have not given any city whose population is below 500,000, though there are many we could enumerate which closely approach that figure. It will be seen that in the thirty-five cities tabulated below there are 32,510,319 souls, or nearly the population of the British Isles, a fact which cannot be grasped in a moment by any ordinary intellect:

Aichi, Japan	1,332,050
Bangkok, Siam	500,000
Brooklyn, N. Y.	771,000
Berlin, Prussia	1,122,330
Calcutta, India	766,298
Canton, China	1,500,000
Changchoofoo, China	1,000,000
Chicago, Ill.	715,000
Constantinople, Turkey	700,000
Foo-choo, China	630,000
Glasgow, Scotland	514,048
Hankow, China	600,000
Hangchow, China	800,000
Hankow, China	600,000
King-te-Chiang, China	500,000
Liverpool, England	575,000
London, England	3,553,819
Madrid, Spain	510,000
Moscow, Russia	1,400,000
New York, N. Y.	2,261,023
Peking, China	505,294
Pekalonga, Java	800,000
Pekin, China	854,000
Philadelphia, Penn.	766,964
St. Petersburg, Russia	962,747
Sartama, Japan	1,000,000
Sian, China	500,000
St. Louis, Mo.	500,000
Tat-Seen-Lo, China	500,000
Tien-Tsin, China	350,000
Tokio, Japan	875,000
Tschautchau-fu, China	1,000,000
Tsin-Tehoo, China	726,105
Vienna, Austria	800,000
Woo-chang, China	800,000

WISE WORDS.

Speaking without thinking is shooting without aiming.

If you speak what you will, you shall hear what you dislike.

Impose not a burden on others which you cannot bear yourself.

The more important an animal is to be the lower is its start. Man, the noblest of all, is born lowest.

Gayety is to good humor as perfume to vegetable fragrance; the one overpowers weak spirits, the other recreates and revives them.

Conversation is the music of the mind, an intellectual orchestra, where all the instruments should bear a part, but where none should play together.

A man who hath no virtue in himself ever envieth virtue in others; for men's minds will either feed upon their own good, or upon others' evil; and who wanteth the one will prey upon the other.

It is the part of wisdom to enjoy what we have, rather than to make life miserable by pining for things beyond our reach. The poorest among us are in possession of luxuries denied to kings a few centuries ago.

Clydesdale Horses.

The Clydesdales have long been recognized as a leading and very valuable race of heavy draught horses, but they were never bred to such a high degree of excellence as at present. The old type of Clydesdale, while massive and strong-limbed, was somewhat "light-waisted." But skillful and judicious breeding has produced an animal which may well be regarded as a model for a heavy draught-horse. They possess sloping shoulders, good limbs, well "feathered" around the fetlocks, well-sprung ribs, deep barrel chest, and muscular quarters. The extensive importation of these horses into the United States has added an important element to the horse stock of the West, where they are highly appreciated. Great care is used, both in the land of their origin and in this country, to preserve the purity of the breed, and encourage breeding to the highest type. The stud-books of Great Britain and of America are conducted with the greatest care, to guard against the registry of any but pure bred animals. The respective associations of Clydesdale breeders in both countries offer liberal premiums for annual competitive exhibitions. In this and other respects both associations have always shown a broad and liberal spirit of enterprise.—*American Agriculturist*.

Remarkable Canary Bird.

Perhaps the most remarkable canary bird in the city of New York died from an apoplectic fit last week. It was what is called an educated "tune bird." It sang "Life let us cherish," by Mozart, as well as that it was a genuine pleasure to listen to it. This bird belonged to Mr. Hoff, who has a large barber shop in Union Square. There are at present two more "tune birds" in this city, one belonging to Mrs. Beckwith and the other to Mr. Rolston of the Farmers' Loan & Trust Company, but neither one of these can sing so well as could the little songster that died last week. About three years ago Mr. Hoff was offered five hundred dollars for it by a Spaniard connected with the Legation at Washington, who wanted to present it to the present Queen Regent of Spain, Maris Christina. Mr. Hoff declined to sell it for five hundred dollars, whereupon he was asked how much he would take. He replied that he would not name any amount, inasmuch as he had made up his mind to keep the little fellow as long as he lived.—*New York Epoch*.

The Heart After Decapitation.

Dr. Charcot, the famous hypnotizer, has recently had a chance of examining immediately after decapitation one of the four per cent. of French murderers who get executed. Thanks to the assistance of the police, his examination commenced two seconds after the knife of the guillotine had fallen; and the head even then had ceased to give any signs of life, though muscular movement continued in the neighborhood of the jaw until the sixth second. But the beating of the heart, caused by the influx of blood, actually continued for sixty minutes. The conclusion finally arrived at was that the death of the guillotined man had not been caused by asphyxia. The violent irritation of the nerves of the neck, it was decided, had reacted upon the heart and death followed the shock.—*London Figaro*.

A Clever Oriole.

An observing correspondent, Mr. G. B. M., sends me a letter about my friends, the orioles, or rather about one of these birds that had a keen eye to business. "It is curious," says Mr. G. B. M., "what a variety of materials Baltimore orioles will use in the construction of their nests. In the lawn of one of the prettiest homes in the State of Maryland a pair of orioles selected a tree in which to build. It was a large fir-tree, about forty-five feet from the house. The lady of the house was sewing by one of the windows opposite this tree early one beautiful summer morning, and, on being called away to some other room, she placed her spool of cotton on the window sill. When she returned she found the spool was gone, and on looking for it, discovered it on the floor of the porch, which was just outside of the window. She found that a considerable length of the cotton was unwound, and looking for the end of it she traced it up to the nest of the oriole, and saw the bird busily weaving it into the nest. The lady placed the spool in the window, and it was shown as a curiosity to all who visited the house. I was one who was so fortunate as to see this curious proof of bird ingenuity."—*St. Nicholas*.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

The old-fashioned sandal is re-established in favor for ladies' wear.

The rage for two colors extends even to passementerie ornamentation for dresses and mantles.

A novelty which is likely to prove invaluable for wearing during outdoor pursuits is mittens of light calf leather.

A new silk glove is long enough to go over the sleeve, and so trimmed with bows as to appear as if fastened by them.

Children's dresses are longer-waisted than last season, being made down to the waist line and sometimes slightly below.

A much favored ornament of the moment consists of necklaces of passementerie composed of several graduated rows.

The long redingote polonaise is much favored for all costumes for walking and morning wear, and many variations of it are seen.

Homespun costumes usually have a decoration of hussar braid and buttons extending from the top to the edge of the skirt.

Coarse homespun clothes are still worn, the newest showing broad stripes of colored fluff dots on their fawn-colored or neutral-tinted grounds.

Broche costumes are made with pique waistcoats, which may be of any shade from pure white to the darkest orange embroidered with colored spots.

It is becoming customary to make the trains of wedding gowns separate from the skirt, so that it may be removed when the dress is afterward worn at balls.

The Princess Mampour, of Ismail, is a very extravagant young potentate. She is up to her jeweled ears in debt, and yet she thinks nothing of paying \$500 for a pug.

The once ugly waterproof has developed into an elegant garment in wool or silk of fashionable pattern and color, and is a very desirable addition to a lady's wardrobe.

When belles travel they more and more take to what may be called aggressive costumes. Enveloping cloaks are made of pronounced plaid, and sometimes a skull cap is worn to match.

Mrs. Stephen Morley, a Montreal woman of wealth, kept over 200 cats in her house. The board of health raided her, and she lost her pets. Now she is suing the board for damages.

Skirts made of fancy stuffs, with which diffident overdresses may be worn, are fashionable. The draperies are usually arranged high, leaving the skirt the conspicuous feature of the costume.

In scarfs nearly every style now seems to be worn, including China crepe, India silk and cashmere, plain and embroidered. However, the Spanish lace scarf still continues not only staple, but the favorite.

For silk and wool combination dresses contrasts of color are again seen, with fine, soft camel's hair for the waists and drapery over a silk skirt of Ottoman, Bengaline, faille Francaise or any good repped silk.

Miss Annie Thomas, of Billings, Montana, is the busiest woman in that busy territory. She conducts a 6,000-acre ranch, looks after valuable timber property and has an interest in two paying mines near Butte City.

Very elegant looking costumes have plain but ample draperies, which are artistically fastened here and there with agraftes of old silver. These pretty ornaments are also seen upon the crowns and brims of stringless bonnets and large hats.

London photographers encourage the idea of American women being presented at court. Every woman immediately has her picture taken in court costume to send home to her dear 500 friends. The photographers are growing rich under this new dispensation.

The wife of the Viceroy Li, of China, recently paid a visit to the foreign hospital for women at Tien-Tsin and showed much sympathy with the poor patients. She ordered her attendants to distribute money to all alike. The incident is regarded as noteworthy, as Chinese dignitaries heretofore have paid little heed to charity.

It is estimated that there are 3,000,000 workingwomen in England, about one-half of whom are in domestic employment. Further, that half the working class families of the land are maintained by the work of women's hands at ridiculously low wages. The *British Weekly* suggests that jubilee year is a good time to make some efforts looking to a betterment of their condition.

A dainty flower parasol of real blossoms was lately presented to the Zarina by the officers of a Russian corps on regimental fete day. Pale pink roses formed the centre of the parasol, with a border of deep red blossoms, while sprays of lilies of the valley hung all around the edge in a graceful fringe. The arms of the regiment were embroidered on a white satin ribbon knotted around the ivory handle of the parasol.

The latest fancy in hair dressing is the coiffure a la vrai Greque, not high on the head, but drawn in a close coil, rolled under something like a French twist on the back of the head, brushed off the temples and forehead, with only a few light curly tresses falling from under a riviere of jewels, or a Greek fillet that just touches the top of the forehead and describes a straight line to the back of the head. The whole effect is very close, and no additional hair is required.

A paper beer bottle is to be the next achievement in the bottle line. Ink, paints, oils and certain acids have for some time past been put in paper bottles, as being safer from breakage and freezing than those made of glass.

A GANG OF ASSASSINS.

Sixty Persons Murdered and Plundered in Serbia.

A gang of murderers has just been arrested at Pirot, in Serbia. Their victims during the past two years number sixty. Disguised as gendarmes, the assassins pretended to arrest travelers for various offenses, and then robbed and killed them.

A deputy of the Prefect of Pirot was the first person arrested for complicity in the crimes. It is believed that political motives led to the commission of some of the murders.

Two French newspaper men and Prince Alexander's groom were among the victims. An official committee of inquiry has been dispatched to Pirot.

Happy Thought.

"It is too bad," said the managing editor to the funny man; "here is a man in the counting-room desiring to put in a big advertisement, and the editor in chief and the publisher are both at the beach."

"Well, can't you manage that yourself?"

"Well, not very well. Somebody is wanted to swear to the circulation."

"Oh, I see."

"Unfortunately, isn't it?"

"I should say so. What's to be done?"

"Can't you swear to it?"

"Why, man, they won't accept me."

"Misery! Will I do?"

"You! Absurd."

"Too bad! Oh, by the way, is the religious editor here?"

"Gracious goodness, yes! Why didn't I think of it before? He'll be accepted without a murmur."

The thing is done at once.—*Boston Courier*.

"Fools Rush in Where Angels Fear to Tread."

So impetuous youth is often given to folly and indiscretions; and, as a result, nervous, mental and organic debility follow, memory is impaired, self-confidence is lacking; at night bad dreams occur, premature old age seems settling in, ruin is in the track. In confidence, you can, and should write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., the author of a treatise for the benefit of that class of patients, and describe your symptoms and sufferings. He can cure you at your home, and will send you full particulars by mail.

According to records kept for many years London fogs are becoming less frequent every year.

"Is there no balm in Gilead?"

Thanks to Dr. Pierce, there is a balm in his "Golden Medical Discovery"—a "balm for every wound" to health, from colds, coughs, consumption, bronchitis, and all chronic, blood, lung and liver affections. Of druggists.

Last year 5,000 soldiers deserted from the British army.

To Ladies.

Suffering from functional derangements or any of the painful disorders or weaknesses incident to the sex, Dr. Pierce's treatise, illustrated with wood-cuts and colored plates (100 pages), suggests sure means of complete self-cure. Send for 10 cents in stamps. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

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